

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EURE-00 SS-15 NSC-10 NSCE-00 L-03 PA-03

PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 RSR-01 /070 W

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P 171744Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2689

INFO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY

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DEPT PASS WHITE HOUSE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, UK

SUBJECT: RATNOFF BROADCAST ON WHITE HOUSE BUGGING

1. BBC COVERAGE OF WATERGATE STORY, PARTICULARLY ON LATEST DEVELOPMENT CONCERNING TAPING OF PRESIDENTIAL CONVERSATIONS, HAS USED THEODORE RATNOFF IN BOTH RADIO AND TELEVISION INTERVIEWS BECAUSE OF HIS ALLEGED EXPERTISE IN ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE.
  2. RATNOFF, WHO IS WELL KNOWN TO EMBASSY OVER PAST YEAR AND HALF AS RESULT OF ABORTIVE EXTRADITION CASE ORIGINATED BY NEW YORK COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY, HAS ATTEMPTED TO IMPLICATE WHITE HOUSE COUNSEL LEONARD GARMENT.
  3. IN TODAY'S WORLD AT ONE RADIO NEWS SHOW, RATNOFF DECLARED THAT IN JANUARY 1971 HE WAS APPROACHED BY WHITE HOUSE MINORITIES ADVISER LEONARD GARMENT WHO SOUGHT TO GET HIM TO INSTALL SOME PHONE-TAPING EQUIPMENT. RATNOFF SAID HE REFUSED TO DO SO BECAUSE THERE WAS NO OFFICIAL REQUESTING DOCUMENT, WHICH MEANT ANY SUCH INSTALLATION REQUEST WOULD BE ILLEGAL.
  4. DEPT. SHOULD BE WELL AWARE OF RATNOFF'S RECORD. HE HAS DESCRIBED HIMSELF AS HAVING HAD "NINE YEARS WORK AS A TOP UNDERCOVER AGENT AND BUGGING EXPERT FOR U. S. GOVERNMENT AND CRIME PREVENTION AGENCIES." ON
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SEPTEMBER 14, 1972, REQUEST FOR RATNOFF'S EXTRADITION

WAS DISMISSED BY CHIEF METROPOLITAN MAGISTRATE AT BOW  
STREET MAGISTRATES' COURT FOR INSUFFICIENT EVIDENCE.  
ANNENBERG

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 17 JUL 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** garlanwa  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 31 JUL 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <31-Jul-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <15 FEB 2002 by garlanwa>  
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30 JUN 2005

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**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** RATNOFF BROADCAST ON WHITE HOUSE BUGGING  
**TAGS:** PINT, UK  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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